Freeze on gas price

2270. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state whether Government propose to freeze the price of gas so that electricity and fertilizer do not become expensive and consumers are not over burdened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): No, Sir. There is no such proposal to freeze the gas price. However, the impact of the proposed increase on power and fertilizer sectors will not be significant.

Survey on fuel adulteration

2271. PROF. SALF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he was aware of a very reputed NGO-Centre of Science and Environment having done a seminal research to highlight the systematic business of fuel adulteration;

(b) whether the Ministry has ever taken up such a survey of fuel adulteration; and

(c) whether Ministry proposes to eradicate this menace from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Under the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 22.11.2001, the Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA) was directed to constitute an agency to carry out random inspection at the petrol pumps, oil depots and tank lorries in Delhi, for an independent assessment of the fuel quality. EPCA asked Centre for Science & Environment to undertake the said assessment.

(b) and (c) Oil Marketing Companies and Anti Adulteration Cell carry out regular/surprise inspection of retail outlets. Besides, in order to prevent adulteration, the following steps have been taken.

(i) issuance of Naphtha and Solvents Control Orders,